Appendix B

PENDING CLAIMS AFTER ENTRY OF THE INSTANT AMENDMENT

Claim 26. (Amended) An antagonist of interleukin-15 (IL-15) activity comprising IL-15 or a mutein thereof, conjugated with a chemical group that sterically interferes with the ability of IL-15 to transduce a signal through the IL-15 receptor complex, wherein said antagonist is capable of binding to said IL-15 receptor complex.

Claim 27. (Amended) The antagonist of claim 26 wherein said IL-15 is native.

Claim 28. (Amended) The antagonist of claim 27 wherein the native IL-15 comprises the sequence of amino acids 49-162 of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 49-162 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 29. (Amended) An antagonist of interleukin-15 (IL-15) activity comprising native IL-15 comprising the sequence of amino acids 49-162 of SEQ ID NO: 2 conjugated with a chemical group that sterically interferes with the ability of IL-15 to transduce a signal through the IL-15 receptor complex, wherein said antagonist is capable of binding to said IL-15 receptor complex..

Claim 30. (Reiterated) The antagonist of claim 26 wherein a mutein of IL-15 is conjugated with a chemical group that sterically interferes with the ability of IL-15 to transduce a signal through the IL-15 receptor complex.

Claim 31. (Reiterated) The antagonist of claim 30 wherein the mutein comprises at least one deletion or substitution with a different naturally-occurring amino acid residue at a position corresponding to amino acid residue Asp^{56} or Gln^{156} of SEQ ID NOs: 1 or 2.

Claim 32. (Reiterated) An antagonist of interleukin-15 (IL-15) activity comprising a mutein corresponding to amino acids 49-162 of SEQ ID:2, wherein either or both of Asp^{56} or Gln^{156} are substituted with serine or cysteine, conjugated with a chemical group that sterically interferes with the ability of IL-15 to transduce a signal through the IL-15 receptor complex.

Claim 33. (Reiterated) The antagonist of claim 32 wherein Asp^{56} is substituted with serine or cysteine.

Claim 34. (Reiterated) The antagonist of claim 32 wherein Gln^{156} is substituted with serine or cysteine.

Claim 35. (Amended) The antagonist of claim 26 wherein the chemical group is selected from the group consisting of PEG, mPEG, PVP, dextran, PVA, poly amino acids, albumin, and gelatin.

Claim 36. (Amended) The antagonist of claim 35 wherein the chemical group is selected from the group consisting of PEG, PVP, and dextran.

Claim 37. (Amended) The antagonist of claim 36 wherein the chemical group is PEG having a molecular weight of between about 1,000 and about 20,000.

Claim 38. (Amended) The antagonist of claim 28 wherein the IL-15 is covalently bonded to PEG having a molecular weight of between about 1,000 and about 20,000.

Claim 39. (Reiterated) The antagonist of claim 31 wherein the mutein is covalently bonded to PEG having a molecular weight between about 1000 and about 20,000.

Claim 40. (Amended) The antagonist of claim 37 wherein the PEG has a molecular weight of about 5,000.

Claim 41. (Reiterated) The antagonist of claim 37 wherein the PEG is selected from the group consisting of SS-PEG, SC-PEG, SPA-PEG, VS-PEG, and Mal-PEG.

Claim 42. (Reiterated) The antagonist of claim 41 wherein the PEG is SC-PEG.

Claim 43. (Reiterated) A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent and an antagonist according to claim 26.

Claim 44. (Reiterated) A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent and an antagonist according to claim 28.

Claim 45. (Reiterated) A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent and an antagonist according to claim 31.

Claim 46. (Reiterated) A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent and an antagonist according to claim 37.

Claim 47. (Reiterated) A method for treating a patient having symptoms of organ transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease, autoimmune disease, rheumatoid arthritis, inflammatory bowel disease, lymphoma, carcinoma, leukemia, rhabdosarcoma, a dermatologic disorder, insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus, an ocular disorder, idiopathic nephrotic syndrome, or idiopathic membranous nephropathy comprising administering to the patient a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 43.

Claim 48. (Reiterated) The method of claim 47 wherein the patient has symptoms of rheumatoid arthritis, lymphoma, carcinoma, leukemia, or a dermatologic disorder.

Claim 49. (Reiterated) A method for treating a patient having symptoms of rheumatoid arthritis, lymphoma, carcinoma, leukemia, or a dermatologic disorder comprising administering to the patient a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 44.

Claim 50. (Reiterated) A method for treating a patient having symptoms of rheumatoid arthritis, lymphoma, carcinoma, leukemia, or a dermatologic disorder comprising administering to the patient a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45.

Claim 51. (Reiterated) A method for treating a patient having symptoms of rheumatoid arthritis, lymphoma, carcinoma, leukemia, or a dermatologic disorder comprising administering to the patient a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 46.

Claim 52. (Reiterated) A method for treating a patient having the symptoms of graft-versus-host disease or to prolong allograft survival comprising administering to the patient a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 44.

Claim 53. (Reiterated) A method for treating a patient having the symptoms of graft-versus-host disease or to prolong allograft survival comprising administering to the patient a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45.

Claim 54. (Reiterated) A method for treating a patient having the symptoms of graft-versus-host disease or to prolong allograft survival comprising administering to the patient a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 46.

Claim 55. (Reiterated) A method for making the antagonist of claim 26 comprising conjugating IL-15 or a mutein of IL-15 with a chemical group that sterically interferes with the ability of IL-15 to transduce a signal through the IL-15 receptor complex.

Claim 56. (Reiterated) A method for reducing IL-15 activity comprising administering a composition according to claim 43.

Claim 57. (Reiterated) A method for reducing IL-15 activity comprising administering a composition according to claim 44.

Claim 58. (Reiterated) A method for reducing IL-15 activity comprising administering a composition according to claim 45.

Claim 59. (Reiterated) A method for reducing IL-15 activity comprising administering a composition according to claim 46.

Claim 60. (Reiterated) A method according to claim 56 wherein the composition is administered to a patient in need of such treatment.

Claim 61. (Reiterated) A method according to claim 57 wherein the composition is administered to a patient in need of such treatment.

Claim 62. (Reiterated) A method according to claim 58 wherein the composition is administered to a patient in need of such treatment.

Claim 63. (Reiterated) A method according to claim 59 wherein the composition is administered to a patient in need of such treatment.